

NEWS FROM ALL OVER IMPERIAL MISSOURI

Interesting Happenings Which Have Taken Place in the Greatest State in the Union.
The Product of the Scissors, the Pen and a Little Actual Labor

"So long as it is feminine gender, who minds hugging a dehusker?" asks Dan Carr in the Macon Times-Democrat.

Fulton now boasts—or is it admits?—a negro policeman. The officer is to have authority only in "the black belt" of that city.

What's in a name, anyway? Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Jolly, of Stover, have had two pairs of twins and with the advent of the second pair, have five children under four years of age.

A seven pound baby girl was born at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Stufflebom of Cora, Sullivan county, Feb. 15. The child had two full grown teeth in the lower jaw.

Judge and Mrs. James E. McGuire of Darlington were married 70 years ago Saturday, February 19. During all this time they have been residents of Gentry county.

The chap who can tell a diamond from an imitation is all right in his line, but the Pierce City Leader thinks him a lesser light than the expert who at a glance can recognize genuine pork sausage.

The State Industrial school for negro girls, at Tipton, has been completed and will be opened about the middle of April. It is said the school is the only one of its kind in the United States.

Pike county's first store, which a correspondent of the Louisiana Press-Journal insists should not be classed as a mere "trading post," was established near Clarksville in 1817.

A Howell county man advertised for household help and within two weeks his wife answered by presenting him with twins, both girls. Talk about preparedness. Nothing brings it to pass like advertising.

There is a chance at Paris for some sprightly young lawyer to step into a position paying nearly \$1 a week. The office of city attorney, with its salary of \$50 a year is going begging.

Cornelius Roach, Missouri secretary of state, sent ex-Governor Dockery, who is chairman of the Democratic state committee, \$100 as a filing fee for the gubernatorial campaign. Mr. Roach was the first candidate for governor to file his fee with Mr. Dockery.

The organizing of a "dry" bank is being discussed at Moberly, where the recent local option election made enemies of friends. No matter how dry the bank gets, let us hope that the stock will not be watered.

"Smoking will be tolerated," confesses a Wellsville widow, who admits she is looking for a husband who must have both sense and cents. "A fine home for the right person," is one of the features of the frank proposal.

Nodaway county has a taxable wealth of \$15,181,726, according to the report just compiled by Deputy County Clerk Calvin R. Burch from the assessed reports for the year. Of this \$11,570,800 is the valuation of real estate; \$3,610,926 is personal property.

Talk is not always cheap. A telephone company has put a toll of fifteen cents a message for connecting patrons of the Galt exchange with Trenton subscribers. The Trenton Times promises a "fight to a finish."

Jim West, of Warsaw, tried an odd method of suicide. Taking the burner off a lamp he poured the kerosene on his head and set fire to it. He walked down stairs, a living torch, but his sister grabbed a piece of carpet and smothered the flames. He was frightfully burned but may live.

John Stundon, 95 years old, died at home, two and a half miles southeast of Arkoe, Saturday night. The cause of his death was a complication of diseases. He is survived by seven children, twenty grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

One of the prisoners of the penitentiary at Jefferson City killed a fellow prisoner with a hammer one day last week. The man who was killed was serving a term of 99 years for murder while the one who did the killing had a term of only four years for burglary.

Bates county's indebtedness will be hovering around the \$100,000 mark if the Marias de Cygnus drainage ditch claim is allowed. The officers of the drainage organization filed recently a mandamus suit for \$30,000.

On the 11th Missouri congressmen and their wives gave a surprise dinner to Third Assistant Postmaster General Dockery at the Hotel Raleigh in Washington on the occasion of his 71st birthday. He was presented on behalf of the Missouri delegation in congress with a silver loving cup.

Missouri is a very large state. St. Joseph alone is about as large in population as the entire state of Nevada. Kansas City is larger than the state of Arizona while St. Louis is larger than the populations of Utah and New Mexico combined.

"What a Bad Ear Will Do," is merely a farm story going the rounds of the Missouri press, warning against carelessness in choosing seed corn. Getting away from the vegetable kingdom, a bad ear once kept a Scotchman from getting a free drink.

Only three Sundays missed in forty-one years is the preaching record of a Shelby pastor, whose third absence in that period, was noted last Sunday night. Each Sunday during the forty-one years the Rev. H. C. Bolen has preached from one to three sermons at church services or religious meetings.

The heat from a ton and a half of coal is as nothing compared to the heat of the place he surely is driving to, comments the Marcelline Journal-Mirror on the probable future of the person who robbed a local minister's coal house during church services.

"Concordia's a good town," was one of the first things the country editor of the Higginsville Jeffersonian said when he paid the Concordian a call the other day. "It's a good thing he did, too," comments the Concordian, "or he'd have found the fighting editor in."

Hungry, but apparently not seriously worse for her twenty-eight days' fast and imprisonment, Tricie Belle, Frank Plains's scotch collie, was found under the Plains home at Fayette, where she had become fastened in since before the recent cold spell.

Neither presence of mind nor a week's salary which she carried in one of her stockings was lost by a Springfield young woman who recently when attacked by a highwayman, swatted him with her umbrella until he was glad of the chance to run away.

A Confederate flag which she and a girl friend made in 1862 while Union soldiers were in possession of Boonville is still the treasured possession of Miss Amanda Kelly of that city, says the Republican. The flag, of silk and on the blue square are seven gilt stars.

The state's youngest girl farmer, doubtless is Miss Mable Dale, who, with profits derived from oil leases in Oklahoma, acquired this week a 400-acre tract in Jasper county. The deal was made by Miss Dale's father. The farm is the fourth to be bought in Jasper county by the Dale family within the last four years.

Curiosity killed a cat and publicity killed the Charlie Chaplin club at Windsor. Canes and mustaches which the charter members pledged themselves to wear until April 1, have been discarded and "fighting from ambush" has ceased. Some feigned regrets but the Review says the only real tears shed over the incident were those of gladness.

Every traveler through the Ozarks, says the Branson Leader, has noticed that some roads are marked by three notches on trees. These are county highways and are so marked to distinguish them from roads leading to a house, a saw mill or a tie camp. The "3-notch road" always leads to some town.

There were 69,749 births in Missouri during the year 1915 and 39,409 deaths, according to the report of the state board of health. The highest number of births was the month of September, 6,195, the monthly average being 5,812. December showed the highest death toll with 4,322 and September the lowest record with a total of 2,812. In 1914 there were 73,925 births or 4,176 more than in 1915.

Buck ague over a poker game is the ailment a Cape Girardeau jurist confesses having had when, in the role of onlooker, he saw a participant in the great American indoor sport discard three tens and, holding a deuce and a tray, call for three cards on the draw. Then, without making a pair, the player under observation raked in the pot to which others had contributed

liberally. The judge was hardly him self until it was explained that "the boys" were engaged in a session of "Dixie poker," where the lowest hand wins.

According to a tester for the American Jersey Cattle club, Oxford Beaus Vixen, 291,747, a 3-year-old belonging to G. S. Kellar of Palmyra, is the champion Jersey cow of the state for the last thirty days. The test began January 18 and in the ensuing thirty days 1,242 pounds of milk, testing 4.76 per cent butter fat, was produced. The production of butter fat for the month was 52,119 pounds, which is equivalent to nearly two and one-half pounds of marketable butter a day.

A Ford car sits in the garage of Bradley Bros., on High street in Linneus, with one of the latest attachments ever put on an automobile. It was put on the other day by an officer of the law who attached the car in behalf of the claim of a Brookfield auto dealer for some \$70 due. The officer furthermore put a padlock and chain on the right front wheel of the Ford and then gave the key to Bradley Bros., who also have a claim of \$30 against the machine. The car was until recently the property of Ben Little, the Summer financier, whose speculations are just now filling several columns of space in local and city newspapers, and was used by him in his rounds of Linn, Chariton and Carroll county towns.

Newspapers and preachers often have quite a problem in the proper wording of obituaries and funeral sermons, but a Warrensburg negro preacher decided to tell the whole truth over the body of Willis Banks who was killed by falling from a train. The preacher said he had been told that Banks was a gambler, a convict, that he stole from his mother and that he had violated every law of God and man; and if these things were true, Banks' soul was now sizzling in hell's fire which was 100,000 times hotter than any ordinary fire. And now his dusky congregation are all sore at the preacher and it is a safe bet no more sorrowing relatives will call on him to preach funeral sermons.

WHAT NEW ENGLAND MISSED

Not Until Late in the '60s Was Observance of Christmas Festival General.

General as are today both the religious and secular observance of the Christmas festival, it is barely half a century since Christmas was tabooed in large sections of the United States as well as in other countries where the old Puritan element predominated, says an exchange. Even as late as the '60s all through New England Christmas as a holiday was ousted by New Year's, except in Catholic or Episcopal families.

The old hatreds growing out of the wars of the Reformation, both on the continent and in Great Britain, for centuries practically abrogated this annual festival wherever the Puritan element or its posterity was the dominating factor in the community. The following from Edward Eggleston's "Transit of Civilization," will give something of an idea of the eclipse which darkened the joyous holiday history of the United States:

"In 1670 the Massachusetts legislature ordained that the mere abstaining from labor on December 25 should be a penal offense. The observance of Christmas was held objectionable not only because it afforded opportunity for the playing of games and profanity, but because Christmas observance was iniquitous on its own account, for all honoring of days, times or seasons other than the Sabbath seemed to the fine spun Puritan mind a masked idolatry. The strict Puritan Sabbath, first rigidly enforced in England and Scotland, was early transplanted in New England, where its observance was, under similar penalties, made as strictly compulsory as was the nonobservance of Christmas." One of the old as well as the modern features of the Christmas service was its magnificent music. But during the Puritan eclipse not only Christmas music, but practically all church music worthy the name, disappeared.

As the religious prejudices and hatreds, born in persecutions, softened with time, the Christmas festival grew in favor even throughout the hostile communities of both Great Britain and America.

Don'ts For Poets.

Arthur Guiterman in a recent interview gave a list of negative commandments for would be poets. "Don't think of yourself as a poet and dress the part," he says. "Don't frequent exclusively the company of writers. Don't complain of lack of appreciation. (In the long run no really good published work can escape appreciation.) Don't speak of poetic license or believe that there is any such thing. Don't use 'e'er' for 'ever,' 'o'er' for 'over,' 'when as' or 'what time' for 'when' or any of the 'poetical' commonplaces of the past. Don't say 'did go' for 'went,' even if you need an extra syllable. Don't—don't write hymns to the great god Pan. He is dead; let him rest in peace! Don't write what everybody else is writing."—Kansas City Star.

HIGH TOWERS NOT NEEDED

Discovery Made That Will Cheapen the Cost of Use of the Wireless Telegraph.

Always when someone has made an invention or a discovery some other person comes along pretty soon with improvements. These improvements usually have to do with the efficiency of the thing or its simplification. Sometimes it is found that a part of the original contrivance which was considered quite essential is really of no particular need and can be done away with just as well as not.

Something of that sort seems to be happening to wireless telegraphy just now, for, if the report which comes from the Pacific coast is correct, a large part of the costly outfit of a wireless station is quite unnecessary. According to this story, a certain Robert B. Woolverton, who is described as the United States radio expert inspector for that territory, has found that the high steel towers with their antennae are quite unnecessary, and that a wire stretched along the ground for, say 500 feet, will answer exactly as well. With such a wire it is declared that Woolverton has picked up messages from Honduras, from Sayville, from Arlington and other places.

"Breaking" Habits Unwise.

Trying to "break" children of habits is an error of method, the Spokane Spokesman-Review observes. The reason is that habit, according to William James, a great psychologist, not only is second nature, but has become nature itself and that nature is not to be driven, but must be coaxed and led.

Displace habit with something else. Replace it on the policy of substituting some better activity. An average child even if only five years old, can, according to Doctor Dearborn, head of a children's infirmary, be guided judiciously if given careful, clear explanations adapted to its years and pointing out things really fundamental or essential. "But one must start with a normal nervous system and musculature." The doctor explains that he means outdoor exercise and plenty of sleep.

Table Talk.

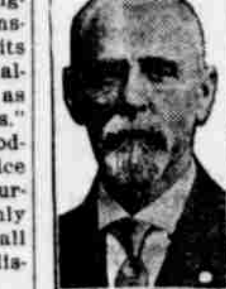
For the past few days matters have been a trifle balled up at the Claridge hotel, says the New York Mail. A. H. Billiard of Meriden, Conn., and J. C. Pool of Springfield, Mass., although total strangers to each other, arrived at the hotel at the same hour one night. The room clerk, when he noticed the combination, turned as white as chalk, but, taking his cue from a run of similar surprises, easily bridged the difficulty. Quickly he called Kelley from the cushions at the side rail, adjusted his diamonds, peered into the rack, scratched his ear, picked up a bottle and extracted from it a pill, and in rotation shot a look of welcome at the men, carefully pocketing his emotions.

Soldiers Mourn Dog's Death.

The regimental dog of the Twenty-third French foot died on the field of honor. In a recent engagement the animal was entrusted with a message from one set of trenches to another. He had often been on similar errands, and, although shot at scores of times, had never been hit. Fate failed to favor him to the end, and this time he was struck down just as another couple of bounds would have carried him into safety. He died as the message was untied from his collar.

OUR PUBLIC FORUM

Peter Radford
ON THE BUSINESS PREACHER.



The recent confession of Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis from the pulpit of the Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, that he erred in becoming secular is in many respects the most important statement made from the American pulpit in this generation and if it marks the high tide of ministerial lust for worldly power that has been flooding this country for the past quarter of a century then Dr. Hillis has not erred in vain.

It must be said to the credit of this noted divine that his purpose in stepping out of the pulpit was to acquire the means of rendering a more capable service to those who need and deserve assistance, but the pathway from the pulpit to the world is always strewn with good intentions. Satan knows as well how to tempt a saint as he does a sinner and he has lured many a minister down the primrose pathway of worldly power to ruin, for no one knows better than his satanic majesty how easy it is to get a preacher to enter business or politics "in the name of the Lord."

The laymen of this nation have viewed with alarm and the world with derision, the growing tendency of ministers of the gospel to abandon the pulpit as a power against evil and seek the influence of worldly agencies to put into effect their Christian ideals. The man who has not sufficient faith in the power of religion to grapple with the sins of this world ought not to be in the pulpit and if he wants to accumulate wealth in order to relieve poverty or wield a scepter in order to enforce morality, then he ought to be a banker or a mayor, instead of a preacher.

The two great temptations that confront the Christian ministry today are business and politics and between the two evils, Dr. Hillis chose the least and by his able conduct has turned error to his credit and transgression to the advantage of the pulpit. It is no compliment to say a preacher is a sharp trader or a smooth politician and certainly no applicant for the ministry would offer such qualifications as evidence of equipment for Christian work, and ministers engaged in undue activities in either field become a menace to the church and a peril to the state.

It is true the ministers, as a class, are underpaid, but their average income will exceed that of the average farmer. Stocks and bonds, land and securities, politics and the lecture platform have tempted many a preacher, but the plow handles are without sin so far as luring the minister from the pulpit is concerned. Any preacher who feels the inclination to abandon the pulpit should plow a few rounds and I venture the suggestion that he will hurry back to the pulpit.

Now that Dr. Hillis has led the business preacher "back to the pulpit" will some one of our leading political preachers confess their sins and lead their wayward brethren back to the fold?

Stevenson as a German Spy.

It is interesting, says the London Chronicle, to recall that Stevenson has recorded his imprisonment in France as a German spy, so foreign looking was he in appearance. Andrew Lang found his appearance at twenty-eight was anything but that of a Scotsman, and the same difficulty pursued the novelist through life, more especially on the continent. "It is a great thing, believe me," he wrote in the Inland Voyage, "to present a good normal type of the nation you belong to," and, as he says in the same chapter, "I might come from any part of the globe, it seems, except from where I do."

New Sect.

At a North Shore golf club a man, who had been playing with a clergyman was quite sure that he heard the holy man swear two or three times under his breath. Suspecting the lapse, he could not be sure of it, until one monosyllable came out with unmistakable clearness. After he had finished the match, a friend of his said: "I saw you playing just now with Rev. Dr. Smith. Of what demonization is he?"

Salt Water Improves Coal.

In recovering cargoes of coal from sunken vessels it has been discovered that the combustion of coal is improved by submergence in salt water. Coal subjected to the action of seawater for a number of years will burn almost entirely away, leaving only a small amount of ash and no cinders. Crates of coal, each holding approximately two tons, were submerged by the British admiralty in 1903, and at different times since certain of them have been raised and experiments conducted. The tests all have been in favor of the salt-water treatment.

Women Farmers in Australia.

In Victoria, Australia, the Women's Rural Industries company has taken a farm of fourteen acres to train women in gardening, Jus Suffragli says. Six young women are in training under Miss Cecilia John and Miss Ina Higgins, the former a poultry expert, and the latter a fruit and flower expert. The farm is near a good market, and has unlimited water. The women in training pay no fees, they give their work and receive board, lodging, and training. The farm is co-operative, worked on £1 shares. No men are employed, and the women wear rational dress, consisting of a brown knickerbocker suit. A similar movement is on foot in South Australia.

Catches Deer in His Arms.

Carrington A. Phelps, writer, who is selling "wood by measure" to the natives while in North Colebrook delving for typical New England characters, caught a deer in his arms. The deer, weighing about 150 pounds, was being pursued by dogs and was nearly exhausted when he crossed a brook. Mr. Phelps had little difficulty in holding the deer. Mrs. Phelps objected when her husband released the animal, because she said she wanted him for a pet.

Helpful Fable.

Once there was a village editor who wrote a stinging hint item about the misbehavior of an anonymous "certain man." Ten different men whom the editor had not theretofore suspected of malefaction were so certain they were the certain man that they all came up to the office and beat him. Moral—From this we should learn that when we denounce a certain man we should be certain that we are not taking in too much territory.—Kansas City Star.

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